

NEW YORKERS HEARD

Reciprocity With Cuba Again Under Consideration

LOWER SUGAR AND TOBACCO DUTIES

Arguments of Produce Exchange

COMMITTEE ADJOURNS

Cuban reciprocity was again under consideration today by the ways and means committee with large representations of Cubans and of the various sugar and tobacco interests in attendance. A delegation from the New York produce exchange, favorable to reciprocity, and several delegations from the beet growing sections, opposed to reciprocity, arrived this morning. Ewan Thomas, ex-president of the New

work produce exchange, presented the views of that organization. He said that last year \$9,000,000 of American food products went to Cuba, about 75 per cent of the business being done by members of the produce exchange. Continuing, he said: "Should the United States refuse to grant a reduction of duty on the imports of the two great staples of Cuba (sugar and tobacco) we believe the result will be ruin to the planter, bankruptcy to the merchant and greater distress to the laboring classes."

of Cuba followed by serious industrial disturbances and disorder.

"Financial and economic disaster to Cuba will correspondingly injure our trade and materially reduce our exports of flour, corn, lard, bacon, pork, beans, peas, canned goods and other commodities. The further reduction of our exports and imports to and from Cuba followed by a corresponding decrease in the carrying trade will result in a loss of freight to ship owners. This committee urges such reduction in the duties now levied on sugar and tobacco as

will avert this impending disaster and thereby safeguard the interests we represent."

Representative McClellan of New York called attention to circulars received by himself and other members of the committee, attacking the current sugar quotations and stating they were influenced by the sugar trust.

The business men present gave their opinion that the quotations were accurate and fairly impartial.

Stands on Its Own Merits.

Mr. McClellan remarked in this connection:

tion that there was an evident purpose in some quarters of prejudicing the cause of Cuban reciprocity by creating a public impression that the trust was behind it, whereas all the witnesses thus far had shown that the Cuban cause stood on its own merits.

Charles Rabidian and C. P. Armstrong of the produce exchange also spoke in favor of reciprocity, and were examined at length by the chief counsel for the Cuban cause.

Representative Robertson of Louisiana asked a series of questions tending to show that the Cuban people had not spoken for reciprocity and that the movement was directed by "the sugar people" interested in

Mr. Robertson also sought to show that American capitalists were buying large sugar tracts in Cuba and would be benefited by reciprocity more than the Cuban people.

Louis Place, head of the Cuban delegation, was heard as to the tariff reductions Cuba was likely to make in order to give the United States control of the market. He said the Cuban tariff was very low now, and should be raised 50 to 70 per cent, and after that a differential granted to the

United States sufficient to control the trade as against other countries. He favored ultimate free trade both ways, which, he said, was the only solution of Cuba's commercial problem.

When Representative Long of Kansas brought out that Mr. Placer had fought free trade with Havana, the Cuban spokesman explained amid laughter that he had yielded to the majority, and that by asking much it was hoped to get as near that, as possi-

Differs With Quoted Senator.
As the hearings closed Representative Richardson of Tennessee, the ranking dem-

ocrat on the committee, said: "I notice that a very prominent United States senator is quoted in today's paper as saying the Senate will settle this whole question, will make a treaty and that we will have nothing to do with it."

"He will find out differently before he gets through," answered Mr. Daizell of Pennsylvania.

Chairman Payne stated that the tobacco men would be heard on the 21st, the beet sugar interests on the 22d and that Gen-

ADMIRAL SUMNER SELECTED.
Will Have Command of the South Atlantic Station.

Rear Admiral George W. Sumner, at present commanding the League Island navy yard, has been selected by Secretary Long to take command of the South Atlantic station, and the battle ship Iowa, now in Chilean waters, has been ordered around Cape Horn to Montevideo to serve as the flagship of the station. Admiral Sumner has been in command at League Island only one year, but he has had other shore duty preceding that, and his last

The department is experiencing trouble in finding enough officers of high rank to meet the demands for sea service, and at the great naval stations and yards where the custom requires the detail of an officer to take the command of a ship or a navigation bureau that Capt. William Cooper, who is now in New York, but who has just been assigned to command the navy yard at Pensacola, had fallen ill with typhoid fever. He was to relieve Admiral

Frank Whites, who is going out to relieve Admiral Kempff on the Asiatic station. This fast order will be carried out, but some one must be found to take Capt. Cooper's assignment at Pensacola.

Municipal Elections in Cork.
CORK, January 16.—The municipal elections here have resulted in the defeat of Eugene Crean (member of parliament for the southeast division of Cork), ex-Mayor Roche and other nominees of the United Irish League. This is attributed to a speech made by Mr. Crean during the campaign, in which he declared that if King Edward came to Cork for the purpose of opening the International exhibition he would be hosted through the city.

To Command the Oregon.
Capt. Joseph B. Eaton, at present captain of the Boston navy yard, has been selected to command the battle ship Oregon, which is now fitting out on the Pacific coast.